

CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A crosslinkable elastomer composition which comprises a crosslinkable elastomer component and a metal oxide filler containing a silicon oxide filler in an amount of not less than 60 % by weight; said silicon oxide filler has a content of impurity metals other than silicon of not more than 100 ppm which is measured under the following conditions:

The silicon oxide filler is dispersed and dissolved in 50 % hydrofluoric acid and is diluted with ultrapure water. *Contents of metals of the solution are determined through atomic absorption analysis by using an atomic absorption photometer.*

2. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of Claim 1, wherein said metal oxide filler consists of the silicon oxide filler.

3. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of Claim 1 or 2, wherein said silicon oxide filler has quartz crystal structure.

4. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of any of Claims 1 to 3, wherein said silicon oxide filler is blended in an amount of from 1 to 150 parts by weight on the basis of 100 parts by weight of the elastomer component.

5. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of any of Claims 1 to 4, which contains a crosslinking agent and said silicon oxide filler in amounts of 0.05 to 10 parts by weight and 1 to 150 parts by weight, respectively on the basis of 100 parts by weight of the elastomer component.

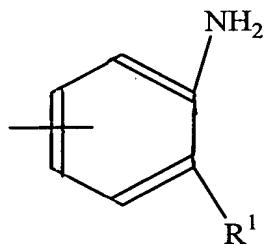
6. (Amended) The crosslinkable elastomer composition of any of Claims 1 to 5, wherein the elastomer component is a fluorine-containing elastomer.

7. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of Claim 6, wherein the elastomer component is a fluorine-containing elastomer capable of being crosslinked with a peroxide crosslinking agent.

8. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of Claim 6, wherein the elastomer component is a fluorine-containing elastomer capable of being crosslinked with an imidazole, oxazole, thiazole or triazine crosslinking agent.

9. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of Claim 6 or 7, wherein the crosslinking agent is an organic peroxide.

10. The crosslinkable elastomer composition of Claim 6 or 8, wherein the crosslinking agent is a compound having at least two functional groups represented by the formula (I):



wherein R¹ is any one of OH, NH₂ or SH.

11. A molded article obtained by crosslinking the elastomer composition of any of Claims 1 to 10.

12. The molded article of Claim 11, wherein an increasing rate of particles generated by irradiating oxygen plasma to the article is not more than 1,000 %.

5 13. The molded article of Claim 11, wherein an amount of impurity metals other than silicon which are extracted with a 50 % aqueous solution of HF is not more than 200 ppb.

10 14. The molded article of Claim 11, which contains impurity metals other than silicon in an amount of not more than 100 ppm.

15 15. The molded article of any of Claims 11 to 14, wherein the article is used for a semiconductor manufacturing equipment.

16. The molded article of Claim 15, wherein the article is a sealing member used for sealing of a semiconductor manufacturing equipment.

20 17. The molded article of Claim 13, wherein the article is a sealing member used for sealing of a semiconductor manufacturing equipment for wet process.

25 18. The molded article of Claim 17, wherein the article is a sealing member used for sealing of a semiconductor manufacturing equipment for a process with ultrapure water.